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# New Buffalo Times

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## GOTTA GET BACK IN TIME…

## THE REGION OF THREE OAKS MUSEUM DEBUTS 2025 EXHIBITS

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PHOTO OF A TURN OF THE CENTURY TIME CLOCK FROM THE FEATHERBONE FACTORY FEATURED IN THE FEATHERBONE EXHIBIT BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

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# New owner cuts the ribbon at Evolve Spa

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

Being the new owner of Evolve Spa in New Buffalo, Katherine Rose Kavanaugh said she intends to offer the same services that are rooted in holistic wellness that customers have come to expect from the more than 16-year-old establishment.

"We want people to live their best lives and feel amazing - every time they walk through these doors, we want them to feel at home and leave inspired for any sort of wellness," she said.

**Owner Katherine Rose Kavanaugh cuts the ribbon at Evolve Spa with members of the Harbor Country Chamber of Commerce**

Having taken over the business in January from the previous owner, Ruta Green, Kavanaugh celebrated her new venture with member of the Harbor Country Chamber of Commerce at a ribbon-cutting Thursday, May 1.

"We spoke about your passion for this business back in January and they now have a moment to commemorate all of your passion for it, your commitment as a resident and your love for the community and the fact that you truly want to continue on the legacy that this business always had but in your own way," Kimberlee Wendt, executive director of the chamber, said.

Kavanaugh said that Green mentioned she was interested in handing down the business a couple years ago.

"I'd known her for a while and she knew I'd carry on the legacy of Evolve Spa and that's what I intend to do," Kavanaugh said.

A graduate of Murphy's School of Medical Massage Therapy in Stevensville, Michigan, Kavanaugh is a proud and active member of the American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA), a nationally recognized organization that champions the highest standards in the field. She also has over 10 years of experience working alongside chiropractors and physical therapists.

She said Evolve offers clinical massage therapy and has a "fantastic" massage therapist, who specializes in all different modalities, including sports massage, reiki, aromatherapy, facials, tummy wraps and skincare treatments. The spa also offers couple's and mother and daughter massages.

Kavanaugh added that the spa also has a sports massage therapist and three aestheticians, two of whom are trained through the Aveda Institute.

"We have just a really great team - we all offer different things in our own way because it's all very special and we're all very skilled and I'm just over the moon with serving the community and making people happy," she said.

Evolve Spa is open every day, with independent contractors who arrange their own schedules. Those who want to make an appointment should call 269-469-5483 or visit evolvespallcc.com. The spa is located at 309 W Buffalo Street in New Buffalo.

**CORRECTIONS:**

On page 18 in the article, "Ribbon cut on community-spirited Commune + Market," Tom Knibbs, who, along with Jim Dygas owns Commune + Market, was incorrectly listed as Tim.

On page 11 as part of the "Celebrating 'All That Is Art' During Art Attack Weekend," a picture of Greta Hurst and her mosaic work at Commune + Market is incorrectly listed as Janis Kanter with her textile collages.

The *New Buffalo Times* apologizes for these errors.

***As difficult as it feels liking it, beware the manipulator that's always smiling in your presence.***
*— Dino N. Fatouros*

# Local Government Meetings

## New Buffalo Times

**Democracy Requires Transparency**

**CITY OF NEW BUFFALO**
VANCE PRICE, MAYOR
**CITY COUNCIL**
MARK ROBERTSON, ROGER LIJEWSKI, KAREN GEAR, RICH KNOLL, VANCE PRICE
City Council meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30PM
**CITY OF NEW BUFFALO PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS**
Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 5:30PM
**NEW BUFFALO TOWNSHIP BOARD**
HOWARD MALES, MICHELLE HEIT, MICHELLE HANNON, PATTY IAZZETTO, BARBARA ANDERSON
Board meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 4PM
**NEW BUFFALO TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION**
Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:30PM
**SHERIFF BERRIEN COUNTY**
Sheriff, Chuck Heit
Undersheriff, Greg Sanders
**NEW BUFFALO AREA RECREATIONAL AUTHORITY**
Meets at 10AM on the 2nd Wednesday of every other month (odd) at New Buffalo Township Hall, 17425 Red Arrow Highway New Buffalo
**NEW BUFFALO AREA SCHOOLS BOARD**
LISA WERNER, JOHN HASKINS, DENISE CHURCHILL, JENNIFER SUMMERS, VANESSA THUN, STEPHEN DONNELLY, GREG VOSBERG
**CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP**
**CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP BOARD**
DAVID BUNTE, PAULA DUDIAK, LIZ RETTIG, RICHARD SULLIVAN, ARTHUR ANDERSON
Chikaming Board meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30PM
**CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION**
Meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:30PM
**THREE OAKS**
THREE OAKS TOWNSHIP BOARD
Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7PM
VILLAGE OF THREE OAKS BOARD
Meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7PM
**GRAND BEACH**
Meets on the 3rd Wednesday at 5PM EST
KIMBERLY WOLNIK, CLERK-TREASURER
HARRY WALDER, JACK GRACE, ED SEBASTIAN, PETER DOERR, EDWARD BRANDES
**MICHIANA**
VILLAGE OF MICHIANA COUNCIL
Meets on the 2nd Friday of each month at 1PM

# Berrien County Health Department hosting community baby shower for first-time expectant parents

The Berrien County Health Department will host a Community Baby Shower for first-time expectant parents on Saturday, May 17 to support their pregnancy journey and help them get connected to resources.

The free event will take place 1-4 p.m. at Mosaic CCDA, 1804 M-139, in Benton Harbor and feature information and resources for first-time parents who are up to 25 weeks in their pregnancy and not currently enrolled in a home visiting program. Attendees also will receive free snacks and a goodie bag with baby items and resources as well as the opportunity to play baby shower games, win door prizes and enter a raffle for additional baby supplies. Attendees do not need to be present to win door prizes and the raffle.

While registration is required, attendees can drop by any time during this all-ages indoor event. Registration is available online at www.berriencounty.org/650/21155/nurse-family-partnership-nfp or by calling 269-927-5631 between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday-Thursday or 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Friday.

First-time expectant parents are encouraged to bring along other loved ones who may care for their baby, like grandparents, aunts or uncles, siblings or friends.

"The Berrien County Health Department's Nurse-Family Partnership team is pleased to host a Community Baby Shower for first-time expectant parents to help them navigate through pregnancy and the birth of their child," NFP coordinator Dorothy Parker said. "Attendees will be treated to an afternoon of fun, learning, free food and prizes.

"We are grateful to partner with so many wonderful community organizations who plan to join us at this special event. From doula and breastfeeding services to pregnancy support and early childhood resources, there will be important information for all first-time parents."

The following organizations will be on-site providing information and resources during the Community Baby Shower:

- Berrien Regional Education Service Agency's Early On program
- Birthmark Doula Services LLC
- Empowered Beginnings Doula Services
- LactPower
- LifePlan
- Michigan Adolescent Pregnancy and Parenting Program
- Women, Infants and Children

BCHD's Nurse-Family Partnership program is a free service that supports first-time moms in Berrien County. The evidence-based program pairs eligible women who are having their first baby with a registered nurse from pregnancy through the child's second birthday. NFP seeks to:

- Help participants experience a healthy pregnancy.
- Promote healthy child development.
- Assist families with goal setting, support network development, parenting and more.

For more information about NFP, visit www.bchdnfp.com. — STAFF REPORTS

***Happiness is the secret to all beauty.***
***There is no beauty that is attractive without happiness.***
*— Christian Dior*

# To Your Health

COLUMN BY KAREN EDWARDS ND

## HAVE YOU HAD A DATE LATELY?

I am talking the healthy whole food sweet dried fruit. 

BENEFITS OF DATES

Not only are dates a delicious filling food, but they are a powerhouse of nutrition.

Did you know dates are one of the most anti-parasitical foods on the planet? They bind onto, destroy and sweep away parasites, yeast, mold, and other fungus; heavy metals, bad bacteria and viruses. Dates are one of the most beneficial candida killers - despite the misconception that dates feed candida.

They are actually ideal for people struggling with diabetes and hypoglycemia because they deliver vital glucose to the liver slowly-addressing the very glucose loss that's responsible for blood sugar issues.

Dates are often categorized as a laxative food. They are an inulin food, having high levels of soluble fiber, (Feeding the microbiome) which is essential in promoting healthy bowel movements and the comfortable passage of food through the intestinal tract, which can relieve symptoms of constipation.

Dates help to restore peristaltic function in the intestines, retraining the intestinal tract after paralysis or disfunction to move properly and expel waste.

They are rich in 70 bioactive minerals that support the adrenal glands. One of the most heart-healthy foods, dates contain an incredible amount of amino acids. These helps elevate the fruit's potassium to its highest potential in sustaining and fortifying muscles and nerves.

Very high in iron, dates are a perfect food for people suffering from anemia. They help increase energy and strength, while decreasing feelings of fatigue and sluggishness. They are the perfect fuel for active people as the high potassium and fruit sugar content is amazing for refueling the brain and muscles. Great snack foods.

Dates are also abundant in anti-cancer properties, making them a must for anyone seeking disease prevention and optimal health.

SYMPTOMS DATES WILL BENEFIT

Blood sugar imbalances, mucous in the stool, candida overgrowth, constipation, muscle fatigue, earache, dizziness, shortness of breath, heart palpitations, anxiousness, sweats, lack of focus, tremors, food allergies, sleep disturbances, panic attacks, ringing in the ears, headaches, gum pain. While you sleep, dates help release stored up toxic emotions.

Here is how you can incorporate more dates in your life. Eat them as is. Blend them up into smoothies My favorite is Medjool dates. They are soft and creamy.

If you desire improved sleep, eat one date before you go to bed.

In order to achieve the desired laxative effect of dates, you should soak some of them in water over night, then consume it in the morning when it becomes like a syrup.

I love them cut up with Mangos and avocado. My favorite snack go to.

Don't forget to take them with you when you go on a trip - they are the perfect travel food! If you are diabetic, this is normally safe, but you should take responsibility if they are for you or not.

Disclaimer: Nothing in these articles is meant to replace medical advice. If you are on medications, do not stop taking them. This is for educational purposes.

*Karen Edwards is a board-Certified Dr. of Naturopathy, Master Herbalist, Vegan and Raw food Chef. She is owner of Holistic Alternatives in New Buffalo and La Porte for over 25 years.*

The queens and kings introduce themselves to students at New Buffalo Elementary School

# Blossomtime royalty on tour

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

Miss New Buffalo 2025 Ellen Ripley and Mr. New Buffalo 2025 Ekolu Brown, along with the Blossomtime Festival's other community queens and kings, made a stop at New Buffalo Elementary School during their busy Goodwill Tour through southwest Michigan Monday, May 5.

After the queens performed a dance, they answered questions about their responsibilities while sitting on the royal courts of their respective communities.

The tour is a traditional precursor to the Grand Floral Parade, which will step off at 1 p.m. in St. Joseph on Main Street and continue through the city, across the Bicentennial Bridge and into Benton Harbor, Saturday, May 10.

Miss New Buffalo 2025 Ellen Ripley (center) dances with her fellow queens at New Buffalo Elementary School

# SPORTS

## Bison lose to Shamrocks in girls' tennis

BY STAN MADDUX

The New Buffalo High School girls' tennis team lost at home Monday, May 5, to one of the best teams in the area.

The Lady Bison were defeated 7-1 by Berrien Springs.

For the most part, Head Coach Dave Kelly said the team (2-7) has been competing well against the more competitive schools.

"We've been having close matches. We're just trying to close the gap on pulling out a few more wins," he said.

The only victory for the Lady Bison against the Shamrocks came from the #2 doubles team of senior Addison Lamport and sophomore Mary Barickman, who won the last two sets, 6-4 and 10-6, to take the three set match.

Kelly said he likes what he sees in the improvement from Barickman playing with a more experienced player.

"I'm hoping that senior leadership will bring Mary along. So far, it's worked out pretty well," he said.

The six seniors on the team include #1 singles player Riley Tertel and #2 singles player Ava Totzke.

Tertel lost her match 6-0 and 6-2 while Totzke was defeated 7-5 and 6-0.

Kelly said Tertel and Totzke are both hard hitters.

One of the season highlights for Totzke came recently against Niles when she won her match in two sets 6-4 and 6-4.

"That was probably her best match this year," he said.

In other matches against Berrien Springs, #3 singles player Ella Vyskocil and #4 singles player Charlee Churchill were shutout in each of their two sets while Issla Wagner and Bailey Heimbach were defeated in #1 doubles play 6-0 and 6-1.

Alice Morris and Madison Dodge were defeated 6-2 and 6-1 in their #3 doubles match.

In #4 doubles action, Evelyn Ixtepan-Pucheta and Gianna Burian lost 6-1 and 6-1.

Kelly said Burian has rotated between #3 and #4 doubles play and could see action in #2 doubles play before the season is over.

"She floats in very nicely and helps the team," he said.

Kelly said the team has slipped in the standings a bit during a recent streak of matches against more competitive schools but likes the ability shown by his players.

"We've played with them. We're playing tough games. We're just not closing out just yet. That's something we got to work on," he said.

***When I do things, I'm all-in.*** *— Draymond Green*

# From the Bleachers

COLUMN BY KURT MARGGRAF IN CHICAGO

Can you believe it? Major League Baseball's season is more than 20% finished already.

Football, basketball, and hockey, along with golf, horse racing, and various other sports have at least shared the spotlight with what once was America's pastime. The weather hasn't helped and neither has the game's inability to make the playing field even.

When the season began, the Los Angeles Dodgers and New York Yankees were favored to play in the World Series again this year but if either faltered other east and west coast teams were ready to step in.

That's great for east and west coast fans, but there are a lot of teams and fans between the coasts that started the season without much hope.

The one team in the Midwest that has the financial resources to challenge the coast teams is the Chicago Cubs, and their ownership has decided to try to win the Midwest and hope to get lucky in the playoffs. So far, this plan has been a failure.

When next season ends, there is a very real chance of a players strike. Fans will hate this, but I don't think it will be nearly as bad as it was back in 1994 when the season wasn't completed for the first time in 90 years. Hopefully, a salary cap similar to the NFL's can be worked out so that when the season begins, every team has a chance.

Let's skip any more gloom and doom, and check into this season and my favorite team, the Chicago Cubs.

First of all, the Cubs fast start this season is due to many different factors.

I guess I have to begin with Pete-Crow-Armstrong. Crow appears to be a budding superstar. He's hitting with power, playing a great center field, and is a great base runner. Next, and just as impressive as Crow, is right fielder Kyle Tucker, already a superstar. These two, and the catching duo of Carson Kelly and Miguel Amaya, are all having great seasons and are the leading causes for the Cubs hot start.

Another quartet isn't far behind. Ian Happ is leading off and playing a golden glove left field again. Michael Busch is improving over a very good rookie season, and since becoming the full time designated hitter Seiya Suzuki has stayed healthy and is punishing the baseball.

Not to be forgotten is second baseman Niko Hoerner, a gold glove fielder and pesky, clutch hitter.

Shortstop Dansby Swanson got off to a slow start with his bat, but has improved dramatically since being dropped in the order. Nobody has grabbed the third base spot yet, but rookie Matt Shaw could be back shortly to see if he is ready for the majors.

Because of injuries and frugalness, the Cubs pitching is very suspect, so the hitters have to keep performing, and if they do, and the team makes a trade or two, this will be the year the Cubs return to the playoffs.

Ralph Waldo Anderson said, "The only way to have a friend is to be one."

Be kind. Talk to you next week. Peace, love, and happiness.

# New Buffalo Envirothon teams gear up for state

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

Three Envirothon teams from New Buffalo High School are headed for state next week.

This year's Michigan Envirothon State Competition is scheduled to take place at Western Michigan University Wednesday through Friday, May 14-16.

Senior Ekolu Brown, who's part of the Six Foot Seven team, said his team did a project on the relationship between bees and walnut trees.

"We planted walnut trees, and we had our beehive - we basically were just trying to show how they both benefit each other," he said.

Brown said he planted four trees last year and six this year. The trees were planted in the retention pond area, where he also helped build a beehive last spring.

"The bees are at the corner of the pond so they can just go out and do their thing," he said.

Seniors Deonna McGrew and Gianna Burian said their team, the Bioremediation team, is filtering out all car pollution that flows into the water.

A jar with dirt in it shows oyster mushrooms that are growing with mycelium.

"We put them on top of hay bales that we got out of the courtyard, and we put it in the pond - so we would put the mushrooms on top of that, which would help get any of the car pollution from the runoff, from the rain," McGrew said.

She added that everything that leaks out of the car that goes with the rainwater into the pond is dangerous for animals.

"There's actually a dead frog out there (that we found) the other day," McGrew said.

The group also worked on a potential project for next year: Burian said that there would be fenced walk-in area in the retention pond area, where plants would be grown that are good for butterflies along with windbreakers."

"So, animals and different weather wouldn't harm the flowers that would help the butterflies attract," she said.

Senior Han Tannehill, who's on the Club team, said that her group planted an apple orchard in the retention pond area to "support more biodiversity and provide habitats for the local wildlife."

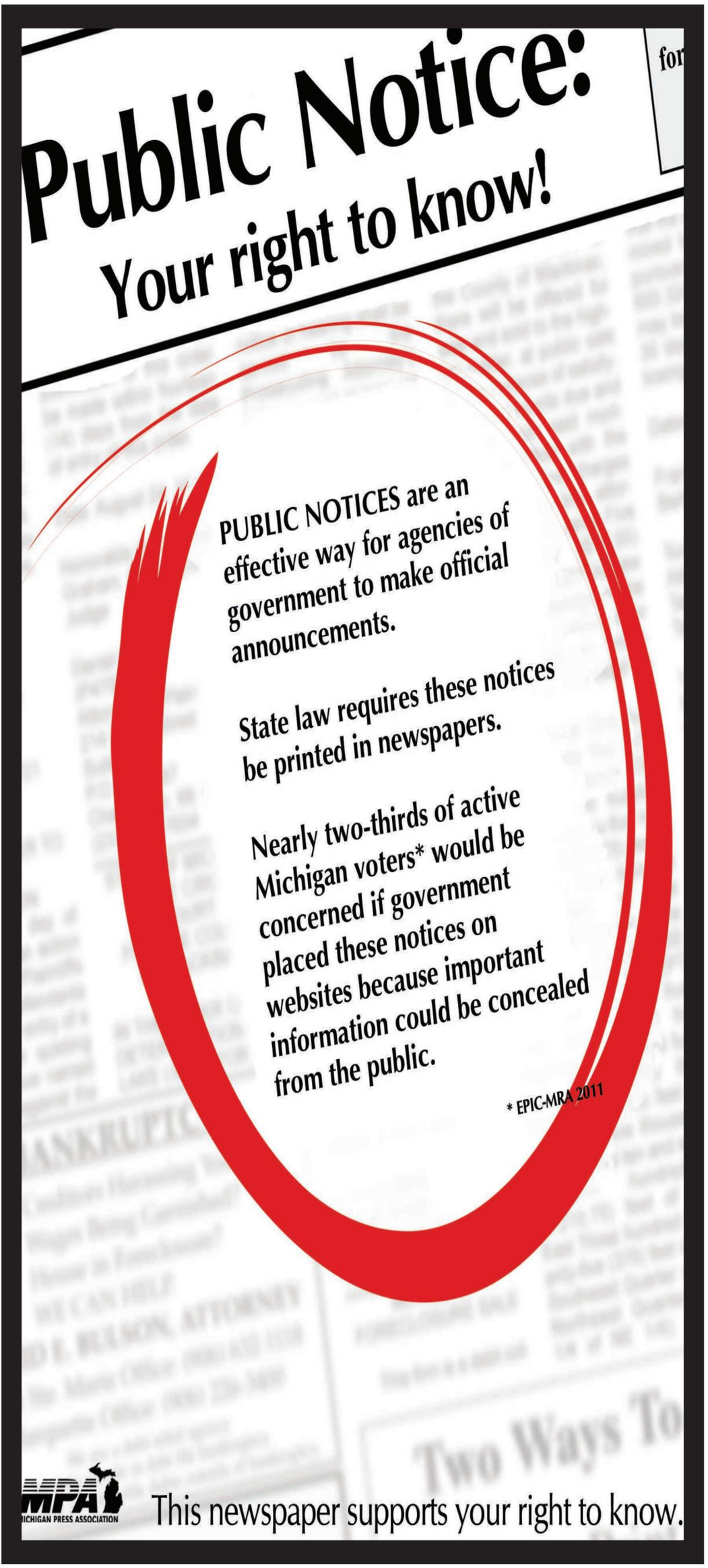
"We're also going to use the apples to provide fresh fruits for the school cafeteria," she said.

She said they received the trees grafted from Lehman's Orchards in Niles. Apples include fuji, gala, red delicious and golden delicious.

"A lot of our biodiversity in Michigan has been decreasing significantly throughout the years especially recently and having this habitat or refuge for the wildlife to come back is really good for them," Tannehill said.

While digging, the group found praying mantis egg paste, which they laced through one of chicken fences around one of the trees. Tannehill said this will help eat any of the pests that could damage the tree.

The group also did a web soil survey off the USDA website to determine if the soil is good for planting trees.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# Planning commission addresses flood of dispensary complaints

BY STAN MADDUX

The New Buffalo Township Planning Commission is recommending new restrictions on marijuana dispensaries in response to citizen and business owner complaints describing the high concentration of them as a detriment to the community.

New Buffalo Township resident Jorge Alvarez was among the people speaking out during Tuesday's regularly scheduled planning commission meeting.

"I didn't come to complain when we allowed all of this stuff to happen. I didn't think anybody thought it was going to be this insane," he said.

Local realtor Rob Gow said enough people are turned off by the changes in aesthetics and behavior the 20 or more dispensaries have brought to the community that "there's pretty strong evidence" a negative impact is happening on property values.

He said some people based on his discussions in the real estate community are going elsewhere to enjoy the type of atmosphere they once had here.

"Mobile signage has been talked about. The activity on the streets has been discussed. I will say the lighting at night, I've heard Las Vegas three times," he said.

Among the added restrictions recommended by the planning commission was fines starting at $2,500 for dispensaries in violation of township codes.

The fine would increase to $5,000 for a second offense and $10,000 for a third and fourth violation.

After a fourth violation within a five-year period, the township board following a public hearing could then decide whether to revoke a dispensary's special land use permit.

"I'm good with that," said Planning Commissioner member Pano Arvanitis.

Support was also given to limiting each dispensary to one temporary sign or banner that must be removed after 30 days in response to complaints about multiple temporary banners and signs at some of the dispensaries becoming an eyesore.

The temporary signs designed to draw the attention of prospective customers would be allowed to be up only during business hours.

Planning Commissioner member Steve Nesci said he felt the temporary signs are "outdated and don't work in the age of digital advertising."

There was also considerable discussion about recommending lighted signs not attached to buildings, especially those with brighter LED lighting, be ordered dimmed or turned off after business hours.

However, the planning commission dropped the issue when informed that can be enforced under an existing police ordinance.

Necsi also expressed a desire to do something about what he felt were offensive names of some dispensaries and the wording on some of their signs.

"It's obnoxious. We need to clean it up," he said.

He dropped the matter, though, when informed content of signs under federal freedom of speech laws cannot be regulated.

New Buffalo Township Code Enforcement Officer John Jakubowski said he drives by the dispensaries on a daily basis and has cited some of them for things like excessive signage.

Jakubowski said he's also written a few tickets for billboards on parked vehicles, but those signs are legal, though, as long as the vehicles are moving.

He said he's also been working with the dispensaries on making sure the lights on their buildings comply with township codes.

"Everything has to be by ordinance. Down lit and shielded and we are actively monitoring that," he said.

There have also been a considerable number of complaints about huge banners advertising dispensaries attached to airplanes.

Jakubowski said he has no authority to stop that activity.

"You can't regulate the airspace of that," he said.

The recommendations from the planning commissioner will go before the township board for final consideration.

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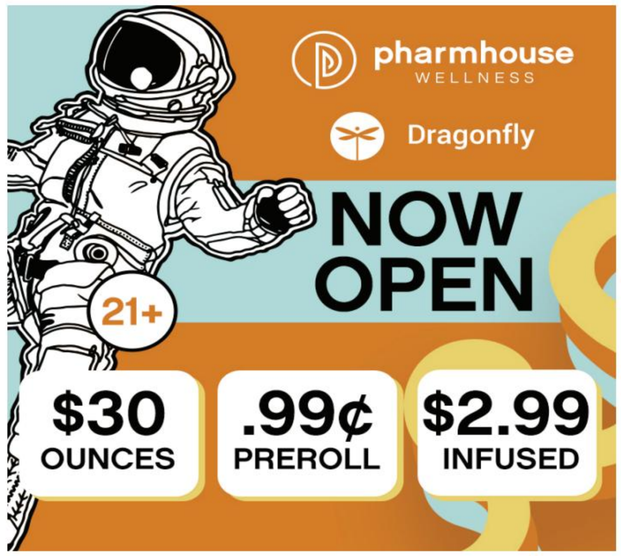

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*REGISTER at herbdoc@comcast.net Space is limited.*

*First come first served.*

Moe Mroueh stands by his food truck for Moe's Food Truck

Big Steve performs at the 2025 market's debut

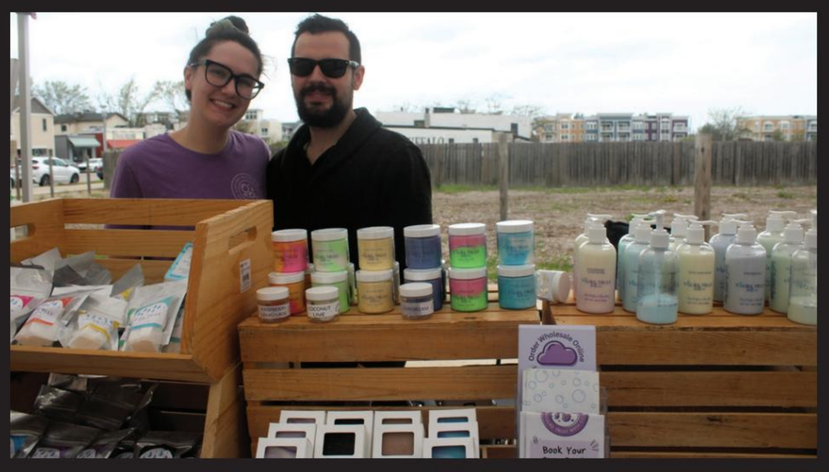
Ali Falatovics holds daughter Mariska next to Reneta Pippens Flonas at the Blomstergard tent

Otto Rexx stands by his display of candles

Aaron Winans of D and S Farm displays his bounty of vegetables

Ben Montgomery and Logan Riley chat with marketgoers at the Yaggy Road Roasting Co. tent

Marketgoers browse the market on opening day



Jaden and Andrew Schultheis display their products from Yours Truly Bath Co

# New Buffalo Farmers Market celebrates 2025 season

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

No matter what the weather, the New Buffalo Farmers Market By the Beach will be there to offer marketgoers with an array of fresh produce and homemade goods from now until October.

"We'll be here every week rain or shine - that's our plan," Ali Falatovics, the market manager, said.

The market made its debut for the 2025 season Thursday, May 1, at 107 North Whittaker Street (the corner of Whittaker and Merchant streets) in New Buffalo and will continue every Thursday from 2-6 p.m. now through Oct. 9.

On that first market day, Falatovics said that there were about 15-16 vendors who were touting their vegetables, flowers, coffee, candles and other products.

Falatovics said that the market will probably reach around 25 vendors.

"We're really trying to bring a lot of good, local farms so we got our produce, flowers, I'm still looking for a meat vendor, I'd love a local meat farm - we also have artisans, candlemakers, soap products, bath products we'll have someone who will do laundry soap eventually coming...so we got some good variety," she said.

A veteran vendor, Falatovics said she's been doing markets for about 10 years. In addition to this year, she was also at the New Buffalo Farmers Market last year with her display of colorful flowers from her business, Blomstergard (which is Swedish for "flower farm") – Farm and Flower, which is in La Porte, Indiana.

Seeing as how she owns a business in nearby northwest Indiana, Falatovics said she appreciates the importance of supporting vendors.

"I'm really trying to build a community event with a lot of producers – people who grow their own products - or artists who make their own goods," she said.

# 1 in 7 children faces hunger.

There's more than enough food in America for every child who struggles with hunger. Help get kids the food they need by supporting Feeding America, the nationwide network of food banks. Together, we can solve hunger™.
Join us at **FeedingAmerica.org**

ad COUNCIL

FEEDING AMERICA

# Farmers market season approaching in La Porte County

The farmers' market season in La Porte and Michigan City begins this year on Memorial Day weekend.

The Farmed and Forged market in Michigan City every Saturday kicks off on May 24 from 8 a.m. to noon at 800 Washington St.

In La Porte, the downtown market will be open every Sunday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Monroe St. and Lincolnway beginning on May 25.

"We are getting the final touches on everything for opening day," said Mandy Krickhahn, Founder of The Collective, a group dedicated to growing small businesses that runs both markets.

Krickhahn said the hours this year in La Porte were moved back one hour in response to crowds last year that were larger earlier in the market hours.

Since coming to La Porte two years ago, Krickhahn said the Farmed and Forged market has resulted in a near 50 percent increase in shoppers and 33 percent growth in the number of vendors than what was achieved at markets under different leadership at the same location.

They're hoping to have similar success in their first year in Michigan City where officials reached out to Krickhahn to reinvigorate their market.

"We're just really excited to go over there and do our thing," she said.

The Farmed and Forged Market has additional offerings than what traditional markets had in the past such as live music and cooking demonstrations along with a variety of more products from vendors coming from more of a regional area. — STAN MADDUX

# Renowned mezzo-soprano Yvette Smith joins School of American Music as new instructor

The School of American Music (SAM) is proud to welcome celebrated mezzo-soprano Yvette Smith as its newest faculty member. Smith will offer private voice and beginning piano lessons to students of all ages, bringing a world-class level of experience and artistry to Southwest Michigan.

A North Carolina native, Smith earned her bachelor's degree from UNC-Greensboro and a Master of Music degree in Opera Performance from the University of Maryland at College Park. Since 2008, she has been a full-time chorister with the Lyric Opera of Chicago, where she has performed or covered numerous roles, including Schwertleite in Die Walküre, Tekta in Jenufa, Giovanna in Rigoletto, and Mutter in Lulu.

Smith's impressive career spans opera houses and concert halls across the country. She has appeared with the Washington National Opera, Sarasota Opera, and the National Philharmonic Chorale, among others. Notably, she performed a solo recital at the White House in 2008 for former President George W. Bush. Her solo work includes more than forty oratorio and concert performances with orchestra.

In addition to her performing career, Smith is a passionate educator. She has served as a district judge for the Illinois Music Education Association (ILMEA) since 2017, taught masterclasses at the University of Kentucky, and held private teaching roles at Music Makers of Western Springs and other institutions. "We are thrilled to welcome Yvette to the School of American Music," said Heidi Smith, Executive Director. "Her depth of experience and genuine commitment to teaching make her an incredible asset to our community."

Lessons with Ms. Smith will be held at the School of American Music, located at 14 Maple Street in Three Oaks. Enrollment is now open, and space is limited. For more information or to register, please visit www.schoolofamericanmusic.com or contact the School of American Music at 269-409-1101.

For more information, visit School of American Music at www.schoolofamericanmusic.com. — STAFF REPORTS

## GARDEN CLUB PLAN SALE NEXT WEEKEND

The much-anticipated River Valley Garden Club's annual plant sale is nearly here.

Scheduled for Saturday, May 17, the sale is held at Harbert Community Park from 10 a.m. to noon at 13300 Red Arrow Highway in Harbert, just north of the Chikaming Township Center.

The sale is held rain or shine – and features home-grown bushes, trees, perennials, ground covers, vegetable plants, and annuals, all from the gardens of the garden club members. The sale is also a good place to get advice and ideas for your garden.

Shade plants are separated from the ones that require full sun. Trees and bushes are separated from plants…and plenty of advice is available from the garden club members.

Anyone with an interest in gardening is always welcome at the River Valley Garden Club. The club has field trips, guest speakers, a member's plant auction, and hands-on workshops in addition to the annual plant sale. The club is also involved in service projects throughout the year. Members come from Indiana and throughout southwest Michigan. For more information, contact Elizabeth Palulis at 269-362-4564 or email her at evpalulis@yahoo.com. Also visit the club's website, w ww.rivervalleygardenclub.org.

— STAFF REPORTS

# PUBLIC NOTICES

**THE BOARD OF EDUCATION – NEW BUFFALO AREA SCHOOLS WILL BE SEEKING BIDS FOR THE FOLLOWING:**

Fuel Products – One Year (2025-2026)

Deadline for Sealed Bids: May 30, 2025 (NOON)

Please submit to: Office of the Superintendent
FUEL BID
P. O. Box 280, 1112 E. Clay Street
New Buffalo, MI 49117

All bids must be clearly marked on the face of the envelope. If escalator clauses are included, de-escalator clauses should also be included at the same rate.

The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any and all bids and will select the successful bidder at its next regular meeting after the due date. For bid specifications, call 269-469-6010..

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**NEW BUFFALO AREA SCHOOLS IS REQUESTING BIDS FOR THEIR 2025-2026 DAIRY NEEDS.**

We are requesting bidders to provide pricing for standard packaging. Please provide unit prices that include ALL fees, including fuel surcharges and additional expenses for the following items:

½ pint 1% Chocolate Milk
½ pint 1% White Milk

Ordering processes, delivery, schedules, and procedure for credits of milk should accompany the bid.

Milk must be delivered in clean milk cartons and crates.

Enrollment PK-12 is approximately 560 students. We offer breakfast and lunch to NBAS students and may put milk on our snack menu.

New Buffalo Area Schools will require dairy services beginning August 26th, 2025, through June 29th, 2026.

Bids should be submitted no later than June 2nd, 2025, at 2:00p.m. Please write "MILK BID ENCLOSED" on your envelope. Mail to:

New Buffalo Area Schools
Food Service Department
P.O. Box 280
New Buffalo, MI 49117

We reserve the right to reject any or all bids, or to select the one we deem to be in the best interest of the district.

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**NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2025-2026 BUDGET**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on May 19, 2025, at 6:00 o'clock p.m., at NBAS High School PAC 1112 E. Clay St, New Buffalo, Michigan, the Board of Education of New Buffalo Area Schools will hold a public hearing to consider the District's proposed 2025-2026 budget.

The Board may not adopt its proposed 2025-2026 budget until after a public hearing. A copy of the proposed 2025-2026 budget, including the proposed property tax millage rate, is available for public inspection during normal business hours at New Buffalo Area Schools Central Office 1112 E. Clay St, New Buffalo, Michigan.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

**THIS NOTICE IS GIVEN BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.**

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**NOTICE OF SALE OF VACANT LAND – VILLAGE OF GRAND BEACH**

The Village of Grand Beach is soliciting bids for the sale of a parcel of vacant land located at 50113 Arnold Avenue, Grand Beach, MI 49117. The legal description of the parcel is: Lot 20 Alpine Valley, parcel number 11-39-0500-0020-00-1.

Bids for the purchase of the property described above must be accompanied by an earnest money deposit equal to 10% of the bid amount in the form of a cashier's check made payable to the Village of Grand Beach. A packet of Instructions to Bidders and Agreement to Purchase Real Estate is available at the Village Hall during regular business hours, 9 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. You may also review these documents by visiting the Village website at www.grandbeach.org.

The completed Agreement to Purchase Real Estate with earnest money deposit check shall be submitted to the office of the Village Clerk located at 48200 Perkins Blvd, Grand Beach, MI 49117, on or before 10:00 a.m. EDT on May 20, 2025, in a sealed opaque envelope which is clearly labeled "Bid for Purchase of Village Property". Electronic submittals will not be accepted. All bids will be opened on May 20, 2025, at 10:30 a.m. EDT at the Village Hall.

The Village reserves the right to waive or reject any or all bids. The Village further reserves the right to waive informalities in the bid process.

**KIMBERLY WOLNIK,
VILLAGE CLERK**

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**THE VILLAGE OF GRAND BEACH WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED 2025-2026 FISCAL YEAR BUDGETS ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 21ST, 2025, AT 4:45 P.M. ET DIRECTLY BEFORE THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED COUNCIL MEETING AT 5:00 PM AT 48200 PERKINS BLVD, GRAND BEACH, MI 49117.**

REGULAR MEETING-BUDGET/ MILLAGE ADOPTION

The Village of Grand Beach will adopt the 2025-2026 fiscal year budget and the 2025 millage rate at its regular council meeting on Wednesday, May 21st, at 5:00 P.M. ET at the Village Hall, 48200 Perkins Blvd., Grand Beach, MI 49117.

THE PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATE TO BE LEVIED TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSED BUDGET WILL BE A SUBJECT OF THE MEETING.

A copy of the complete budget is available for public inspection at the Clerk's Office located at 48200 Perkins Blvd., Grand Beach, MI.

**KIMBERLY WOLNIK,
CLERK/TREASURER**

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**VILLAGE OF GRAND BEACH
BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

**PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED ZONING AMENDMENTS - ARTICLE X: ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that in accordance with the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, PA 33 of 2008, as amended, and the Village of Grand Beach Zoning Ordinance, the Village of Grand Beach Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to consider comments regarding a proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment on Thursday, June 5, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. EDT at the Village Hall, 48200 Perkins Blvd., Grand Beach, MI 49117. At that time, the Village Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing to listen to and consider any public comments about the proposed Zoning Amendment, with the regular Planning Commission meeting to follow at 7:30 p.m. The proposed Zoning Amendment includes the following:

*Definition added to Article II, "Accessory Dwelling Unit"
*Addition of Article X, Sections 10.01-10.06, Accessory Dwelling Units, defined as a dwelling or living area in an Accessory Building that meets certain state and local requirements such that it may be utilized as a short-term rental; details on locational and dimensional requirements, design requirements, use and occupancy requirements, deed restriction requirements, and clarification on what is not allowed as an Accessory Dwelling Unit.

A draft of the proposed Amendment language can be reviewed by contacting the Village Clerk, Kimberly Wolnik, at 269-469-3141 or by email at clerk@grandbeach.org during regular business hours after the publication of this Notice. The proposed Amendment in its entirety may also be examined at the public hearing. Individuals with disabilities or the need for auxiliary aids should contact the Clerk by phone or email above, or send correspondence to the Clerk at 48200 Perkins Blvd., Grand Beach, MI 49117, not less than 5 days before the hearing.

Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received by the Clerk at the Village Hall by email or mail not less than 3 days prior to the public hearing to be included in the written materials submitted for review by the Planning Commission.

**KIMBERLY WOLNIK,
VILLAGE CLERK**

# Michigan City to examine restrictions for short-term rentals

BY STAN MADDUX

Recent complaints ranging from loud parties to nudity at short-term rentals in a neighborhood close to the lakefront have triggered officials in Michigan City to look for possible answers.

The city council has scheduled public workshops for May 13 and June 10 at City Hall to define the scale of the problem and examine potential solutions.

Councilman Greg Coulter said finding answers might be more difficult in Indiana than Michigan due to differences in state law.

"It's difficult living in Michigan City and looking at New Buffalo where in Michigan they have rights to limit these things," he said.

During the city council meeting Tuesday, May 6, a number of residents from the Sheridan Beach neighborhood requested teeth be added to an ordinance that only requires short-term rentals be registered with the city.

Resident Diane Vough said some of the larger short-term rentals appear to be at overcapacity with 30 or more guests doing things like getting in and out of outdoor hot tubs naked.

She said some of them appear to be underage drinkers.

Vough said other problems include people vomiting and urinating outside even at daylight.

"It's a routine amount of behaviors. It's just like party central," she said.

Vough said there are also problems with litter and trash bins overfilled for extended periods at some of the short-term rentals.

Resident Vivian Ott said the request for more restrictions came after seeing no let-up in the problems four years since short-term rentals were required to be registered with the city.

"This has become more problematic for our neighborhood and for the quality of life for those of us who live in that neighborhood," she said.

Coulter said the problems appear mostly rooted with high school students and their activities after prom.

"Every year it seems to be post-prom," he said.

In 2021, the city council in New Buffalo adopted a measure prohibiting new short-term rentals from opening in residential neighborhoods in response to similar complaints from full time citizens.

Another reason for the decision was to try and restore the number of homes available for purchase in the city especially for young families with children.

The legal options used by other Indiana communities to get a handle on the problems with short-term rentals will be one of the focuses in Michigan City during the June workshop.

New Buffalo Times
LOCAL INTELLIGENCE
— SINCE 1942 —

# A Writer's Life...

## DURING THE GOLDEN AGE OF TELEVISION ANIMATION

BY JACK OLESKER

A lifeline, just not the one I expected...

Jean opened his door and greeted me, pooh-poohing when I apologized for dropping in. A gracious host, he welcomed me into his tastefully decorated condo. I sat on a sofa and he set out cheese. I congratulated him on getting Care Bears and he nodded, then asked how I'm doing as assistant story editor. I told him I'm figuring things out. He nodded again, deciding to wait to address this.

Suddenly he declared, "I've got something to show you!"

I followed him to the dining room and saw a large box. He pulled the flaps apart and with clumsy effort started to draw the contents out, revealing, "It's my new computer! Just arrived today!"

Jean's an amazing human being — one of the smartest, most talented and generous people I'd ever know. But I think he'd be the first to admit manual dexterity isn't his strong suit. As he struggled trying to free the computer from the box, I resisted the urge to help, not wanting to go anywhere near the mysterious device.

Finally, he extracted the heavy beige metal oblong creature I'd learn is called a tower. We were silent for a moment, as if gazing in awe at some alien descended from a mothership. When he asked if I got my computer yet, I let out an involuntary laugh. Unamused, he said I need to get one so we can learn together. I admired his adventurous nature.

Then, digging in the box again, Jean said, "Come on! Let's put it together!"

With connections completed, I watched Jean trying to start with his new computer. He stared at the beast as if his sheer force of will could compel it to allow him to start writing a script on it. It didn't.

After a half hour he had only succeeded in plugging it into an outlet in his dining room and toggling on the power button. He poked at keyboard buttons, occasionally the words 'bad boot' appearing on the screen. This irritated Jean, who asked, "What is 'bad boot'? Where is boot?!"

I smiled to myself. Jean speaks English fluently, although with a thick French accent. (He'd say I have a thick American accent.) But there are times I think he uses his thick accent to goof on people. There was a story going around the studio about when Jean and Andy met with a couple of ABC execs to discuss a script for The Littles.

Jean described a scene featuring young Lucy Little, Jean's French accent thick and English broken, as he said, "Lucy is on menstret." Thinking he had said "menstruate", the execs' eyes widened. When they'd regained their composure, one of the execs stammered, "Je...Jean... we can't do that." To which Jean replied, "What is wrong? Lucy is on menstret."

The story goes, one of the execs leaned forward and whispered, "This is a children's show. We can't even saythat."

Deciphering Jean's accent better than the execs did, Andy grinned and explained, "He's saying 'Lucy is on Main Street'."

I always wondered whether or not Jean was pranking the execs. Six-to-five and pick 'em

*Jack Olesker's career in the entertainment industry spans over four decades. He has served as a story editor in L.A. as well as president of a motion picture and television company in Chennai, India. His writing ranges from Mighty Morphin Power Rangers, Care Bears and Hello Kitty's Furry Tale Theater to documentaries and horror novels and murder mysteries for adults.*

# HOROSCOPE

## MAY 8-14, 2025

AS INTERPRETED BY SANDY "STAR" BENDT

**ARIES** MARCH 21—APRIL 19

Believe in your ability to manifest fast money and the luxurious items you want this week and you will have them. The vibe now is all about visualizing the things you want and using your imagination to create the opportunity to seize them. Transform your life with your mind first.

**TAURUS** APRIL 20—MAY 20

This is a perfect time to meet someone you can create a solid partnership with. When you start brainstorming and sharing ideas with them that's when the magic will happen. Pay attention to how you feel when you are talking with people; it's the one's that make you feel optimistic.

**GEMINI** MAY 21—JUNE 21

Transitions and transformations require not only hard work and persistence but also a positive outlook. You have to believe in what you are doing and your abilities to do it or you won't be able to stick with it when times get hard. Be ready to face hard times with the smile of conviction.

**CANCER** JUNE 22—JULY 22

Believe in your creations and their magical potentials this week. The energy radiating from the cosmos is all about imagination and creating a better reality through positive thinking. Harness the vibe by getting your creative ideas on paper and putting them out there for compensation.

**LEO** JULY 23—AUGUST 22

Use your imagination to transform your home and household. The vibe this week is all about making your household more efficient and structuring things to operate in ways that are more conducive to your career and lifestyle. Don't skimp on what's important for your livelihood and finances.

**VIRGO** AUGUST 23—SEPTEMBER 22

Become a student of magic and work with the idea of infinite possibilities this week. Don't let yourself become tethered to a negative opinion or diagnosis. Take back your powers of manifestation and transformation. Use them to open up a new outlook on your situation and things will change.

**LIBRA** SEPTEMBER 23—OCTOBER 22

This week holds a lot of drama and excitement, a kind of walk in the woods, where you may come to realize other people are a necessity to your journey and you don't always know what you're up against until you encounter it. Having a friend on the journey will make life more interesting.

**SCORPIO** OCTOBER 23—NOVERMBER 21

There is a very powerful lunar vibe coming your way this week. The energy is ripe with transformative powers and is all about harnessing your potentials and expanding your ability to change your world. It is important to focus on staying positive and activating your power.

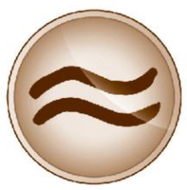
**SAGITTARIUS** NOVEMBER 22—DECEMBER 21

The vibe this week is all about going within to your magical place and recharging. When you get appropriate amount of sleep sure, you're more productive but when you accompany good sleep with purposeful relaxation techniques it really amps up your magical transformative powers.

**CAPRICORN** DECEMBER 22—JANUARY 19

Prepare for the sleep over affect. This is where you and a group of friends love being scared and will create situations that feel like you are connecting with otherworldly type energy. Get ready for some scary fun but don't get carried away. You still have school in the morning.

**AQUARIUS** JANUARY 20—FEBRUARY 18



The energy coming your way this week is all about harnessing your power to transform your world through your perspective. If you think something will be terrible it will be, but if you go into things with an open mind, the possibility of it being better exists and can be attained.

**PISCES** FEBRUARY 19—MARCH 20

It's time to go on that journey and move out of the comfort zone. Seize the opportunity to venture out in the world and discover more of yourself. This is a very transformative time and bigger seas to swim await. So, ditch the gold fish bowl and open your world to include larger areas to explore.

***All truly great thoughts are conceived by walking.***
*— Friedrich Nietzsche*

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## Sudoku

*Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9.*

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | | 3 | | 1 | | | | 8 |
| | | | | | | | 6 | |
| | | | | | | | | 5 |
| 1 | 5 | | | | 9 | 6 | 8 | 3 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | 2 | | | | | 1 | 9 |
| | 4 | | 9 | | 5 | | | |
| 8 | | | 1 | 2 | | | 5 | |
| | 6 | 5 | | 8 | 3 | | | 2 |

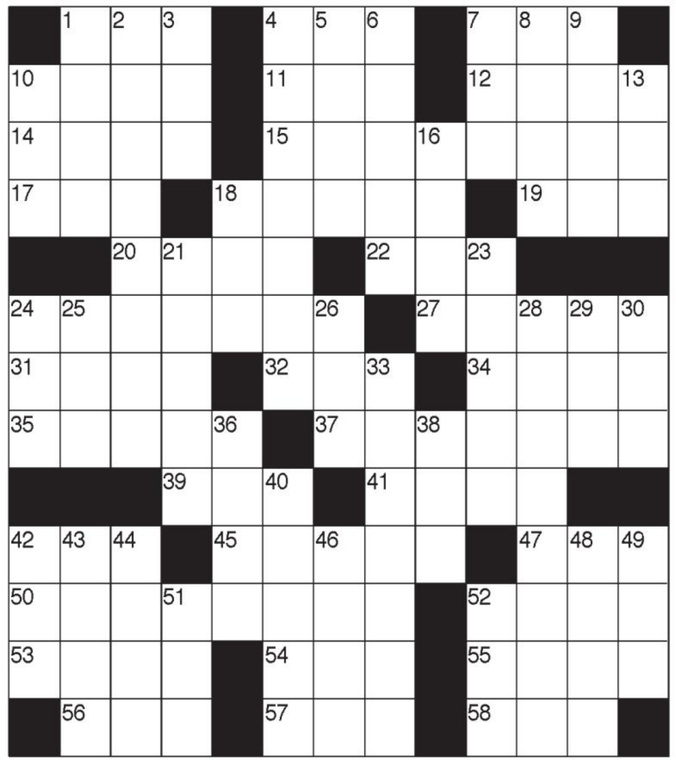
# CROSSWORD PUZZLE

**ACROSS**

1 Palestine Liberation Organ. (abbr.)
4 Dance company (abbr.)
7 Chairman (abbr.)
10 Variegated in color
11 Remote
12 Excavate
14 Pilaster
15 Bot (2 words)
17 Exclamation
18 Notes in Guido's scale
19 Shak. contraction
20 Russ. range
22 Equine
24 Mar
27 Hebrew letter
31 Duds
32 Touch lightly
34 Guide
35 Chasm
37 Sugarcane by-product
39 Cereal grain or grass
41 Pharaoh
42 Arrival (abbr.)
45 Ridge
47 Revolutions per minute (abbr.)
50 Regatta (2 words)
52 Nut
53 Shak. villain
54 Videocassette recorder (abbr.)
55 Hung. violinist
56 Dive
57 Poetic contraction
58 Son of Abijah

**DOWN**

1 Metallic sound
2 Coma
3 Harem room
4 Pain
5 Geological epoch
6 Nutlike drupe
7 Certified Public Accountant (abbr.)
8 Employ
9 Turn
10 Birthplace of Henry IV
13 Bobbsey twins
16 Irish fortified place
18 Eastern standard time (abbr.)
21 Rope
23 Muslim prayer
24 As written in music
25 Male swan
26 Habakkuk (abbr.)
28 Fain
29 Laughter sounds
30 Dutch commune
33 Horse's foot part
36 Moselle tributary
38 Right turn
40 Horse-shoeing stall
42 Mother of Hezekia
43 Via
44 Fad
46 Behold! (Lat.)
48 Supplication
49 Disfigure
51 Heavy weight
52 "The Jungle Book" python



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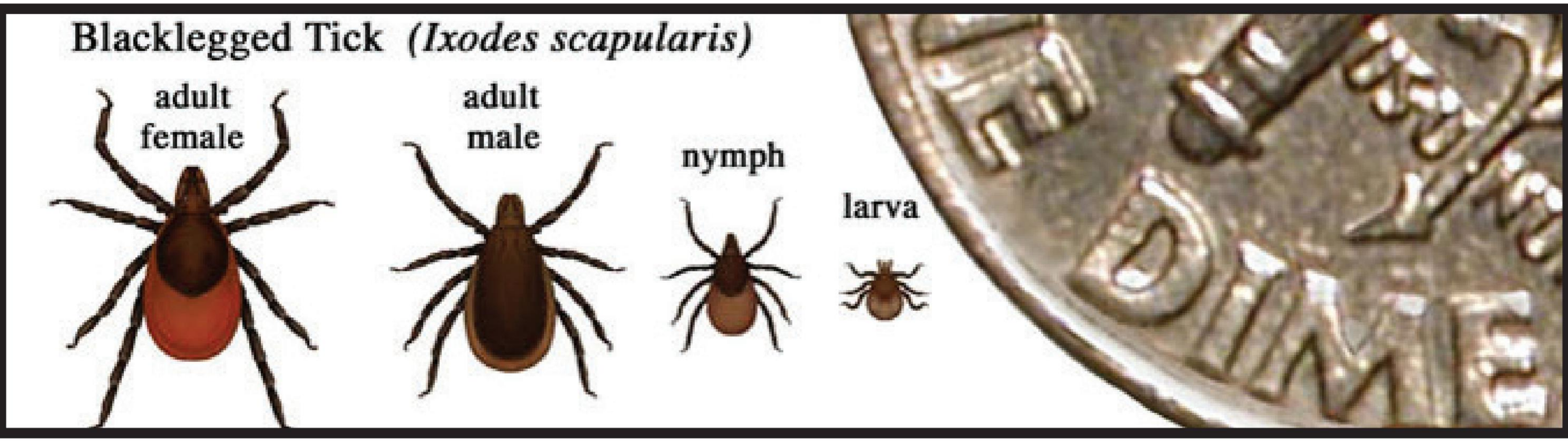

# A Day in the Life

## MIDDLE AGE FOLKS ON A SATURDAY NIGHT AT JUST THE RIGHT PLACE. ...

BY LAWRENCE VON EBELER

I went to George's barber shop the other day for the first time in a long while because my friend has been cutting my hair due to my inability to drive. George and I are the same age and he is still cutting hair! He's been cutting hair for a long time, he cut our current Supreme Court Justice's hair when he was in High School. George is also a former mayor of New Buffalo as well. I asked him if he's ever going to call it quits in barbering and he replied "Heck no, why would I?" and "it keeps me young and on top of things, I get all of the town gossip, it keeps me moving and in touch with things. I can't improve on that, can I?" I was impressed with that answer and looked around the shop and I realized it had not been touched by human hands, except to clean, and someone had given him a new TV, everything else was like time stood still still except a new plate glass window had to be replaced when a woman went out of control parking her car. Luckily the old barber pole escaped it.

A few days later I was invited to a comedy show at the Acorn. I was invited by my friend and an Acorn board member. I can hardly express my disdain for comedy shows but the theater was very nice and they accommodate my wheelchair.

I had no idea what the comedians would be like except they were at the Acorn and that always means you can expect the best. To my surprise the theater was packed. I could not help but notice it was a different crowd and the line for the drink bar was about a hundred persons long and didn't shorten at curtain time. They were mostly middle aged and obviously drinkers. It was their "night out" I guess. Don't these folks waiting at the bar want to see the show?

The warm-up act, Jim Flannigan, came on stage and was quite good. Then the main act leapt onto the stage with great gusto and wound up performing the best comedy act ever! The audience was enamored and falling off their chairs with laughter from the first minute! He was also from good ol' Chicago. He had the audience in the palm of his hands. His name was Pat Tomasulo, don't forget it. You'll want to see him again! Their routines were not just funny, but a knock out with every single joke.

It was definitely a middle aged crowd out for fun on the town's Saturday night with a few drinks, it was clearly their very own week-ender night with a lot of back slapping, side-splitting, rawcus laughter for the truly gifted talent on stage. The woman next to me was almost crying from laughing so hard! The comedians were truly hilarious and they packed their pudgier crowd full of out-of- control belly laughs. And these fun loving folks were in attendance of a full house too! A fun time was had by all, including this little pudgie.

I only wished George the barber could have been there as well, to brush up on his joke telling, not that he needs that.

# PET OF THE WEEK

## KYA

**Kya has gentle and sweet eyes the most soulful, and will look at you as the most important person in her life. She is a hefty almost two-year-old, and she is spayed and her vaccinations are up-to-date. Kya prefers a quiet home with older children, but does not like cats. She might take time to greet anyone, but treats always help. If your home could be her home, she will make it her home. Kya has a gentle soul, and could probably love someone that likes to help her fetch, and maybe lose some pounds.**

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Museum guests view a World War II-era kitchen as part of the museum's newest exhibits

Museum guests view the doctor's exhibit at the museum

Museum board president Randy Miller speaks at a preview party at the museum

Kermit Wies stands next to scale models of mills as part of the saw and grist mill exhibit

# The Region of Three Oaks Museum debuts 2025 exhibits

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

At one point, Berrien County was dotted with mills.

According to Kermit Wies, during the settlement period from 1830-1860, which was before the area industrialized, farmers who were starting to turn a surplus needed somewhere to send their crops before they could go to market.

"Similarly, a lot of buildings were being built in the area - we weren't just sending logs over to Chicago, so we needed sawmills in the area," Wies said.

The two main mills in the area were sawmills, which were used for sawing wood, and grist mills, which were used for grinding grain.

Visitors can view scale models of these types of mills, as well as more information about the advent of powered mills in the area, in one of the newest exhibits at The Region of Three Oaks Museum for its 2025 season.

Steam power came along around the 1850s, Wies said.

"You weren't necessarily tied to building a mill next to a running stream but by that time, we did have several mills in the area that were running off waterpower," he said.

The exhibit includes a map from 1873 that shows where people had built mills, which includes one in Three Oaks Township and some in New Buffalo.

It also contains equipment from the last working grain mill in Berrien County: The New Troy/Morley Mill, which Wies said was built in the 1860s and closed in 1987.

"There were many more mills in the area but most of them didn't survive," he said.

The scale models were based on mills in Dowagiac, which was a big mill town.

A volunteer with the museum, Wies said that he brought items over from Pears Mill in Buchanan, which is also where he volunteers.

Nick Bogert reveals a poster for the former Three Oaks Fair

Other new exhibits that are debuting this season include a World War II kitchen, which includes free recipe cards for those who want to try their hand at making World War II food; a doctor's exhibit, which features the patent medicine marketed out of Three Oaks 125 years ago; an exhibit on Hess and Sittig roads, with several artifacts and the expansion of the Harbor Country tourist exhibit, which includes the Harbor Country Monopoly game that came out in the early 2000s.

Museum board member Nick Bogert said that an exhibit that's in the process involves the former Warren Oil and Gas Company, with the building still standing at 7 South Elm Street in downtown Three Oaks.

He said that this was where the checks came for oil royalties from the Warren's land in the southwest, where they owned a lot of ranches. The last time the building was in the news was in 2006, when a fire was reported there in the Herald Palladium.

The building was built in 1932 and the two men who ran the company, Ray Hoffman and William Kramer, stopped running it there in the late 1970s or early 1980s.

About a year and a half ago, Bogert said that they learned that Jim Barkhurst, the heir to the estate of Ray Hoffman, Jr., would like to give the museum the building and that they're currently waiting on him to come to Three Oaks to sign the legal paperwork next month.

"We have a lot of work to do on the building because you can imagine the carpets and drapes are from the 1970s and haven't been cleaned much," he said, adding that the structure is in "pretty good shape."

In the future, Bogert said the museum will be looking for some help "with regards to the cost."

Plans are to put a display about the Warren family in there, as well as the Featherbone Company, and that the donor is requesting it be named for Sarah Josephine Warren Hoffman, who went by Josephine and whose husband ran the place for decades.

Also featured at the museum are unframed and framed posters from the 1929 Three Oaks Fair, with the unframed ones being $20 and the framed ones $35.

From 1917-1935, the big fair in Berrien County was in Three Oaks, which existed before the Berrien County Youth Fair that began in 1947 and is featured in another new museum exhibit.

The fair, which was held west of the museum on Warren Featherbone Company-owned land, featured a racetrack, grandstand and pavilions built for displays of livestock but also sewing, embroidery and a lot of domestic arts, Bogert said.

The Region of Three Oaks Museum is located at 5 Featherbone Avenue in Three Oaks and is open from noon to 5 p.m. Friday through Sunday now through the end of October. More information can be found at www.regionofthreeoaksmuseum.com.

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